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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 27, 2009, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2009

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ROLAND W. BURRIS, a Senator from the State of Illinois.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of our destinies, guide our Senators this day by Your higher wisdom. Watch over them and use their work for Your glory. Lord, replace fear with faith, pessimism with hope, and error with truth. May these lawmakers become Your instruments for enabling justice to roll down like waters in this land we love. Give them serenity to accept what can't be changed, the courage to change what they can, and the wisdom to know one from the other.

Lord, we also ask You to comfort the many who mourn Steve Mosley's death. Be near to Michelle and Steven, Jr., and all of his loved ones.

We pray in the Redeemer's Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ROLAND W. BURRIS led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ROLAND W. BURRIS, a Senator from the State of Illinois, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BURRIS thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, if there be any, there will be a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each. There will be no rollcall votes today. The next vote will occur at 5:30 on Monday. That vote will be on the motion to invoke cloture on the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act.

We have a few matters of business today. I am going to rule XIV a housing bill. I have spoken with the Republican leader as to how we are going to move forward on that, and I think that has been fairly well determined. We will do that as soon as we get rid of the fraud enforcement legislation and a

nomination or two. We should be able to move to this on Wednesday or so of next week. It is something we have been wanting to go get to for some time. There will be a vote on the bankruptcy aspect of housing—the so-called cramdown language. Senator McCONNELL and I have spoken about how to proceed on that and the rest of the bill.

Next week should be an interesting week. Wednesday, sometime, we will interrupt whatever we are doing to complete the conference report on the budget. Senators GREGG, CONRAD, and MURRAY were appointed as conferees on that, and they will be working over the weekend. Most issues have been resolved, but there are some that have not.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I assume the Chair would want to announce the morning business hour.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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